



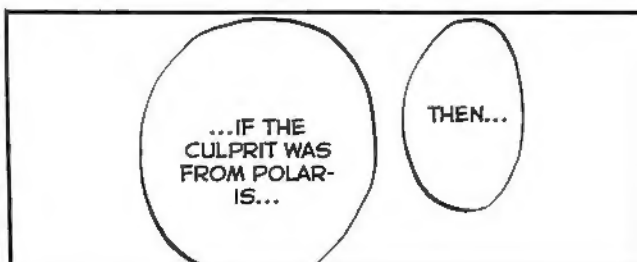
IF ONE OF THE VILLAGERS WAS THE CULPRIT, THE REST OF THE VILLAGE WOULD CONDEMN THEM WITHOUT MERCY.



IT'S NOT THAT HARD TO BELIEVE THEY'D GET EXILED FROM THE VILLAGE FOR DEFYING A DIRECT ORDER FROM THE THREE FAMILIES.



OUR HOLY MOTHER HAS NEVER ONCE DIRECTED US TO DO HARM TO HIN-AMIZAWA.



...IF THE CULPRIT WAS FROM POLARIS...

THEN...



SIMILARLY TO YOUR VILLAGE, POLARIS WOULD NOT ACCEPT THEM AS A COMRADE, AND THEY'D PROBABLY BE BANISHED.

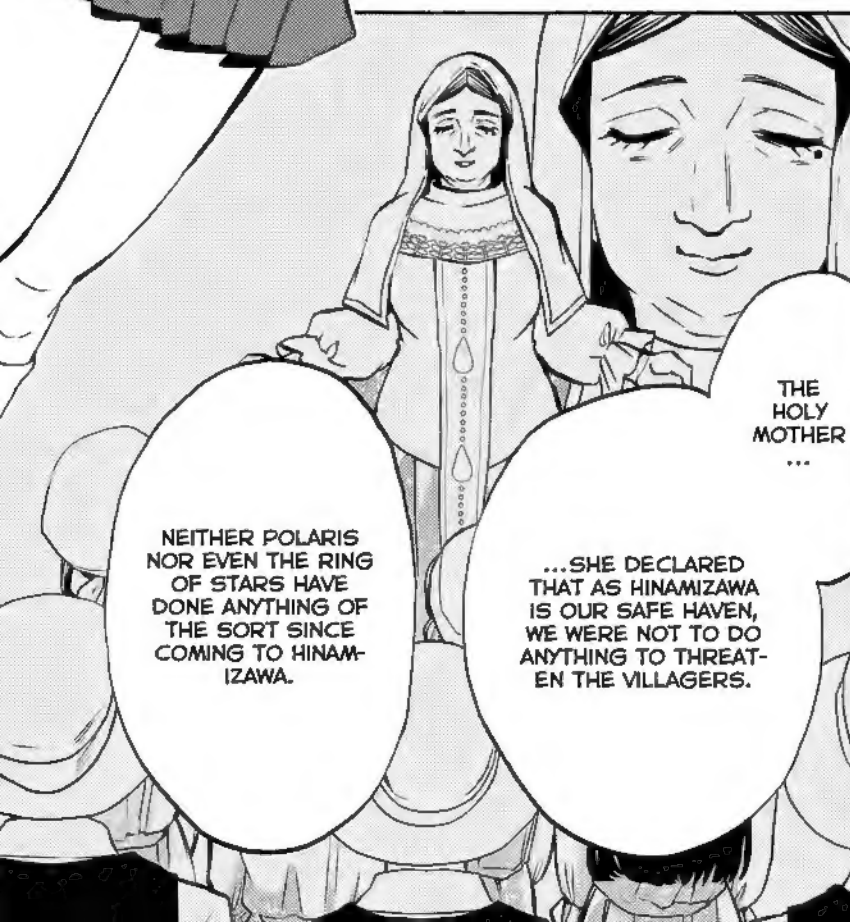


BUT THAT'S
BECAUSE WE
WERE ASHAMED
AFTER CON-
STANTLY BEING
HARASSED...

IT'S TRUE THAT PO-
LARIS HARASSED
OUR ENEMIES BACK
BEFORE WE CAME
TO HINAMIZAWA.



AND...WE BELIEVED
THAT HAVING PEOPLE
SEE US AS A SHADY
CULT WOULD DISTANCE
US AWAY FROM ANY
OUTSIDE INTERFER-
ENCE.



THE
HOLY
MOTHER
...

NEITHER POLARIS
NOR EVEN THE RING
OF STARS HAVE
DONE ANYTHING OF
THE SORT SINCE
COMING TO HINAM-
IZAWA.

...SHE DECLARED
THAT AS HINAMIZAWA
IS OUR SAFE HAVEN,
WE WERE NOT TO DO
ANYTHING TO THREAT-
EN THE VILLAGERS.



AN
IMAGE-
BUILDING
STRATE-
GY, EH?


I HEAR THAT MY
GREAT GRAND-
MOTHER USED
TO DO SOME-
THING SIMILAR
TO BUILD INFLU-
ENCE BACK IN
THE DAY...



WE SHOULD BE
ABLE TO...

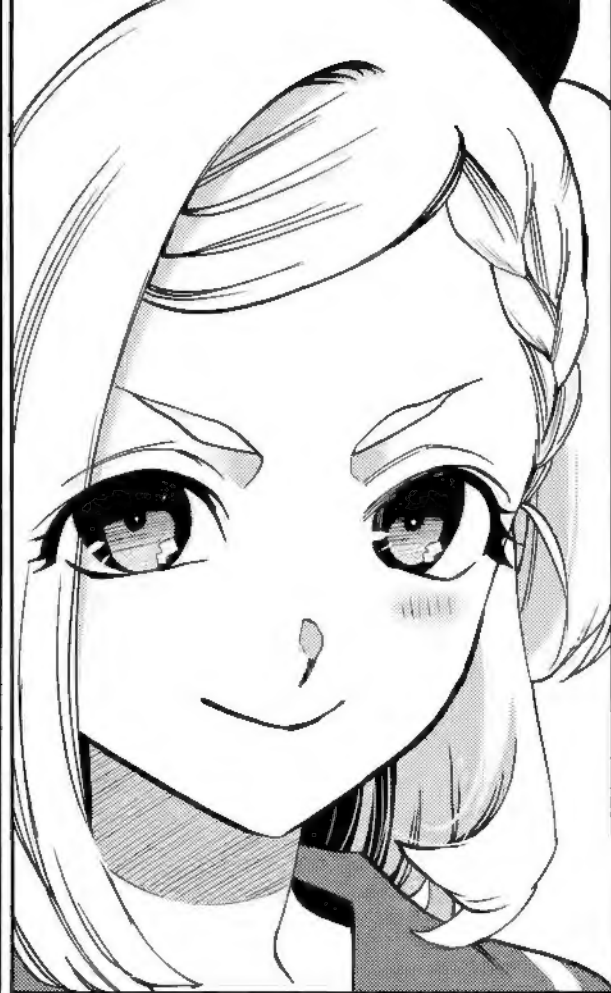
...WORK TOGETHER TO
MAINTAIN TRANQUILITY,
AS COMRADES STRIV-
ING TOWARD HARMONY
AMONG PEOPLE.

I THINK IF WE CAN
JUST GET THESE
THINGS SORTED
OUT, WE'LL BE ABLE
TO LIVE AS NEIGH-
BORS AT AN APPRO-
PRIATE LEVEL OF
PERSONAL SPACE.



I WANT TO SEE
THIS FROM PO-
LARIS'S POINT OF
VIEW.

WILL YOU HELP US
FIND THE CULPRIT?





THE CURSE
OF OYASHI-
RO-SAMA...



IF THAT'S SO,
I SURE HOPE
WE DON'T
HAVE ANY INCIDENTS THIS
YEAR...

AND WE
MIGHT BE
RECOGNIZED AS
A WORLD
HERITAGE
SITE
SOON, EH?



TURNING THIS
PLACE INTO
A TOURIST
DESTINATION IS
REALLY WORK-
ING OUT!

MAAAN, THEY
SAY HOTELS
ARE GONNA FILL
UP EARLY THIS
YEAR!



OYASHIRO-SA-
MA, PLEASE
PROTECT THE
VILLAGE...



IF THE
CURSE DOES
HAPPEN,
IT'LL BE LIKE
A DIVINE MES-
SAGE SAYING
TO DRIVE
THEM OUT OF
THE VILLAGE.

THOSE
CASES OF HAR-
ASSMENT ARE
STILL HAP-
PENING...

IF ANY-
ONE'S GOING
TO BE CURSED,
IT'S POLARIS.

IF WE'RE
TALKIN'
ENEMIES
OF THE
VILLAGE,
IT COULD
ONLY BE
THEM...



...IS MORE OR
LESS A CALL TO
ACTION AGAINST
EXTERNAL EN-
EMIES OF THE VIL-
LAGE.

THE WAY
I SEE
IT, THE
CURSE
OF
OYASHI-
RO-SA-
MA...



JUST FIVE DAYS
UNTIL THE VILLAGE
FESTIVAL WHERE
THE CURSE
ALLEGEDLY
OCCURS...

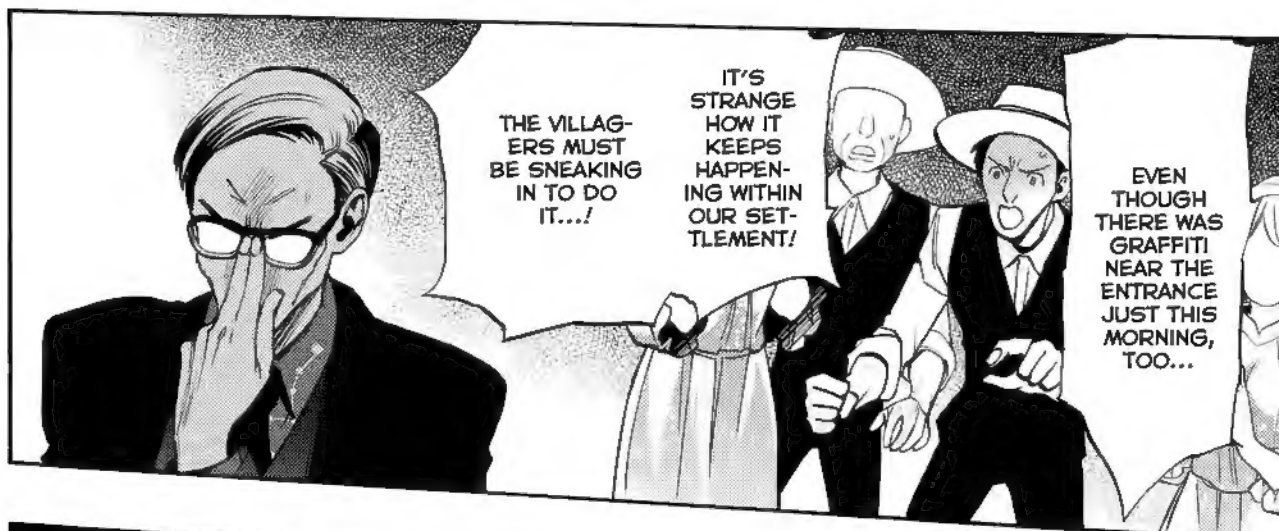
CANO-
PUS-SAN!



IT'S POSSIBLE
THE VILLAGERS
WILL ENGAGE IN
RADICAL BEHAV-
IOR...

REMAIN VIGI-
LANT.









...IS TRYING TO
IDENTIFY THE
CULPRIT.

MY
FRIEND
FROM
THE VIL-
LAGE...

AU...

MAE-
BA-
RA-SA
N...



...HELP
HIM.

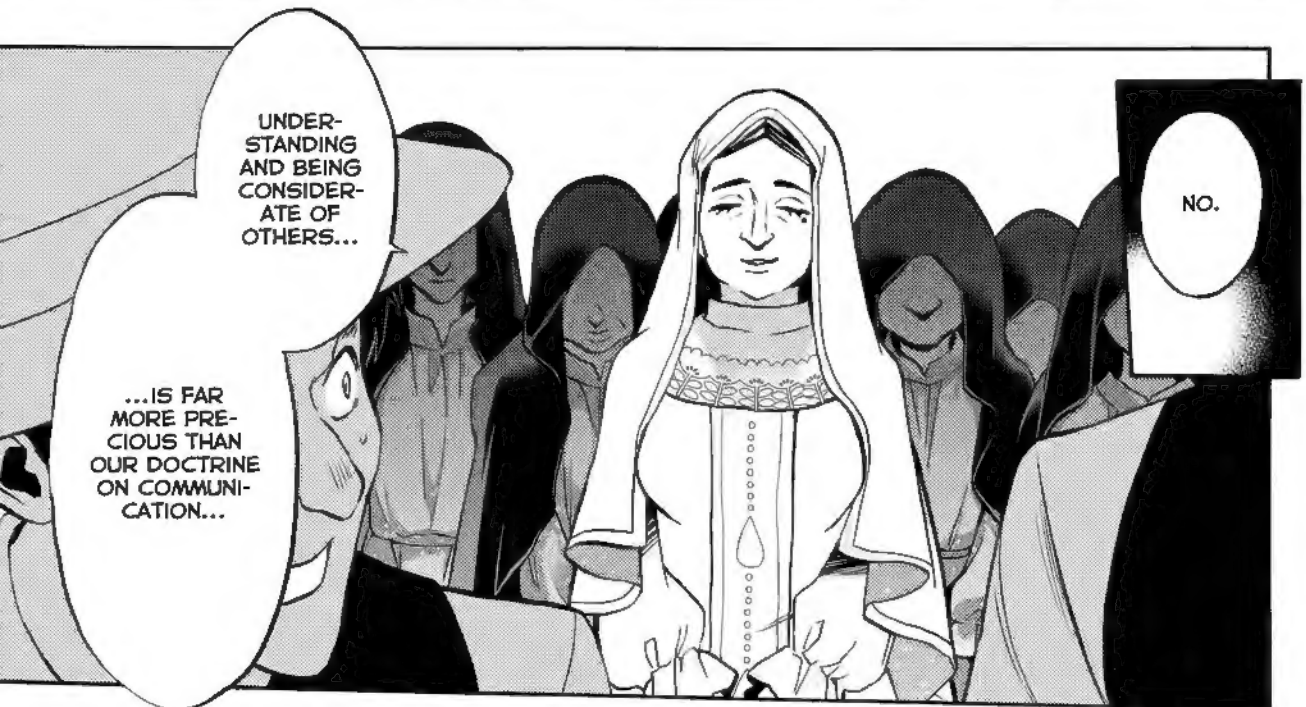
...WE
WANT
TO...

AND...



MAEBARA-SAN AND
HIS FRIENDS HAVE
BEEN MAKING AN
EFFORT TO TRY
TO UNDERSTAND
US...

SO WE WANT TO
MAKE JUST AS
MUCH OF AN EFFORT
TO UNDERSTAND
THEIR FEELINGS,
TOO...!



Higurashi no Naku Koro ni Rei: Irotoutoshi-hen

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